

# HIGHWAY 99 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## N.E. 99TH STREET TO N.E. 117TH STREET

September 2006

## CLARK COUNTY BEGINS ENGINEERING DESIGN

The Highway 99 Corridor Improvement Project will design just over one mile of roadway and tie into the new approach to Kline Line Bridge on the south side of Salmon Creek. The project will improve the segment of the road between N.E. 99th Street and N.E. 117th Street to a 4-lane principal arterial with raised medians and/or a center turn lane, bike lanes, and sidewalks. Intersection improvements will be included. Surveying and preliminary engineering is scheduled to begin in early summer 2006.

The Highway 99 Corridor Improvement Project is intended to upgrade the infrastructure and support the changing needs of the community. The project will improve safety, reduce congestion, and increase mobility. The county will work with adjacent property and business owners to minimize the effects of the project.



Thousands of vehicles use Highway 99 north of the N.E. 99th Street intersection on a daily basis.

## Project Background

What is now Highway 99 started as a trail, became the Pacific Highway, and for 40 years was part of the major transportation route for the entire West Coast. With the construction of I-5, which it parallels, the state conveyed the highway to Clark County in 1972. It remains a key transportation corridor serving Vancouver, Hazel Dell, and Salmon Creek.

Since the 1950s, the business district along Highway 99 has experienced prosperity, stagnation, recession, and renewed growth. In September 2000, a group of property owners, concerned citizens and businesses, with participation from Clark County, formed Team 99 to initiate a revitalization effort for the corridor. The Highway 99 Design Concept Plan, completed in January 2006 and accepted by the Board of County Commissioners, examined various engineering, environmental, traffic, and drainage issues. The plan illustrates opportunities to revitalize the corridor.

Developed with input from Team 99, a public outreach effort, and county staff, the Design Concept

Plan is an integral part of the planning for the Highway 99 Corridor Improvement Project. The plan's objectives are to develop a safe multimodal facility, improve mobility, define capital improvement needs, facilitate community input, enhance economic viability, and facilitate redevelopment. The plan was developed in tandem with the Kline Line Bridge replacement project. Decisions affecting vehicle design speeds and travel lane alignments were coordinated.

## Land Uses and Traffic in Project Area

According to studies completed for the concept plan, Highway 99 north of N.E. 99th Street carries a significant number of vehicles every day. Traffic safety is a major concern in the project area; from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2004, there were 140 reported collisions between N.E. 99th Street and N.E. 119th Street. Four were bicycle collisions and two were pedestrian collisions.

## WHAT THIS PROJECT WILL DO

While Highway 99 south of N.E. 99th Street to the vicinity of N.E. 63rd Street meets current county standard, the segment in the project area needs improving. There are four travel lanes, intermittent turn lanes, and unconnected sidewalks, with businesses commonly encroaching into the right-of-way. After construction, the corridor will include two travel lanes in each direction and a center left turn lane/median, with two bicycle lanes and detached sidewalks, as well as drainage improvements. Stormwater will be collected and treated according to county, state, and federal regulations.

Highway 99 intersections will be examined during preliminary engineering and this assessment will take east-west alignments into account. The existing intersection of N.E. Highway 99 and N.E. 99th Street experiences significant delays due to the high volume of traffic. The lanes at this intersection are narrow with no bike lanes. The project design will include modifications to the intersection, and widening the roadway for improved mobility for bicyclists, motorists, and pedestrians.

Under the “walkable communities” concept endorsed by both Team 99 and the county, Highway 99 will become more pedestrian friendly. The project team will coordinate with C-Tran regarding current and future transit stops. Streetscapes, lighting, landscaping, covered transit stops, signage, and pedestrian friendly features will be considered as presented in the Design Concept Plan. These architectural features may become a standard for revitalizing the entire Highway 99 corridor.

### PROJECT COST

Preliminary Engineering: \$2.2 million  
Right-of-Way Acquisition: \$4.9 million  
Construction: \$13.9 million  
Total: \$21 million

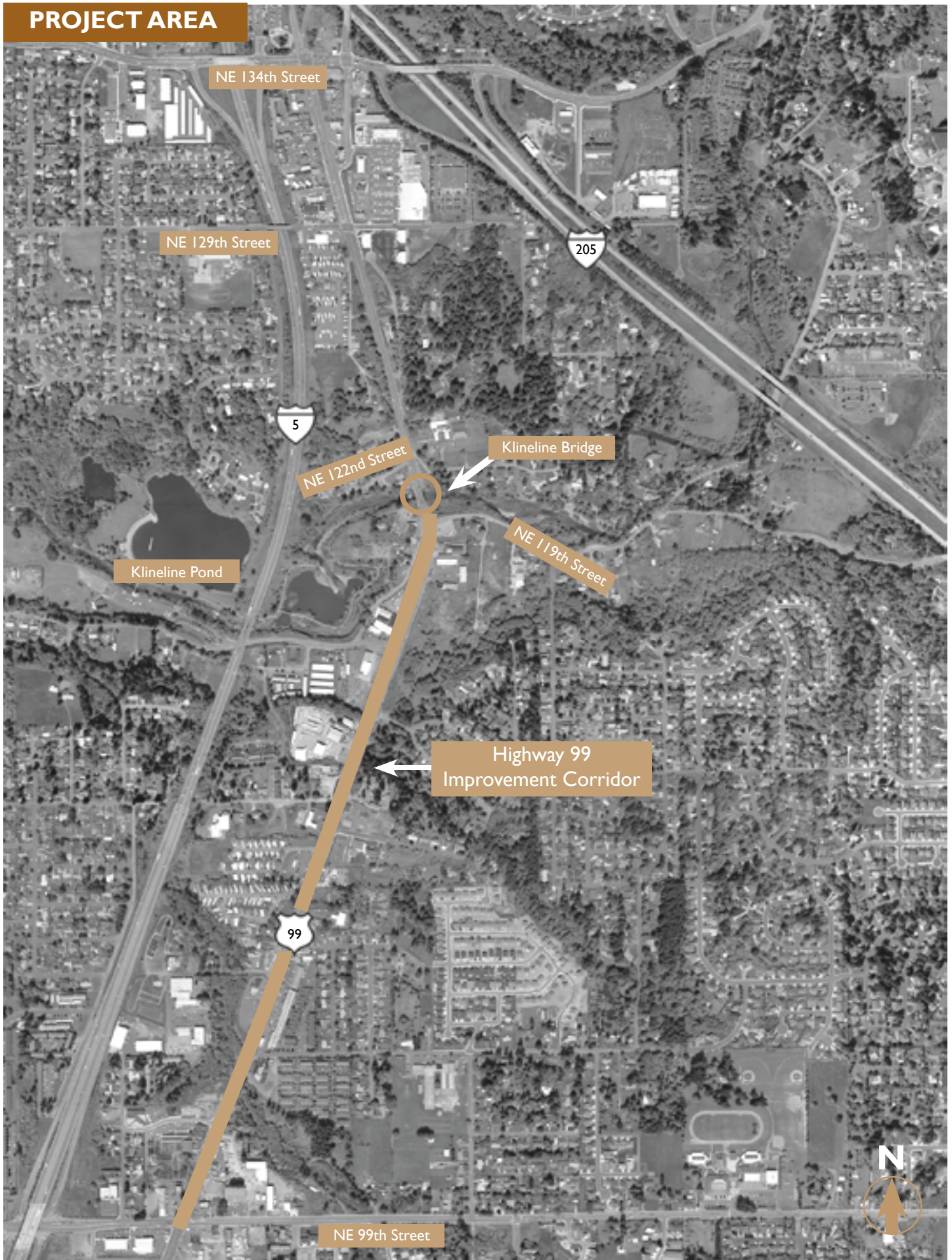
### PROJECT FUNDING

Federal Grant: \$2 million  
Grants: \$7 million  
County Road Fund: \$12 million  
Total: \$21 million

## PRELIMINARY PROJECT SCHEDULE

Task	Date	Ongoing
Design Survey	Early Spring - late Summer 2006	Monthly Team 99 Meetings  Individual Property Owner Meetings
30 percent Engineering Design	Winter 2007	
Newsletter #2 and Public Open House #1	Spring 2007	
50 percent Engineering Design	Fall 2007	
Citizen and Business Forums	Fall 2007 - Winter 2008	
90 percent Engineering Design	Spring 2008	
Newsletter #3 and Public Open House #2	Spring 2008	
Preliminary Engineering Design Completed	Fall 2009	
Construction	2011 - 2013	

## PROJECT AREA



## FAST FACTS

- The Highway 99 Corridor Improvement Project will improve Highway 99 from N.E. 99th Street to N.E. 117th Street.
- The project will improve the roadway's infrastructure, support the changing needs of the community, improve safety, and reduce congestion.
- The preliminary engineering phase will last until late 2009, with construction not anticipated before early 2011.
- The corridor crosses two urban streams. Storm-water collection and culvert sizing will be addressed during preliminary engineering and permitting.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions about this project, or would like to have someone from the county present project information at your community, neighborhood, or business meeting, please contact the project manager:

Linda Small, Capital Project Manager  
Clark County Public Works  
Phone: (360) 397-6118, extension 4753  
E-mail: [Linda.small@clark.wa.gov](mailto:Linda.small@clark.wa.gov)

*Contact the Clark County ADA office if you need assistance or auxiliary aids:  
Voice: (360) 397-2025, TTY: (360) 397-2445,  
Fax: (360) 397-6027, E-mail: [ADA@clark.wa.gov](mailto:ADA@clark.wa.gov).*



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